

Remarks

Applicants thank the Examiner for the consideration given this application.

Reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 20-40 are now pending in this application, where Claims 20, 21, 24, 31 and 34 are independent claims. Claims 22-40 have been added. Claims 22 and 23 are supported at least by, for example, Figs. 6 and 9 and other portions of the specification. Claims 24-40 are supported by multiple portions of the specification, including, for example, Figs. 5, 9, and 10 and pages 21-22. Claim 21 has been amended to correct an obvious typographical error.

At page 2, the Office Action objects to the abstract based on its containing the word “said.” Applicants have cancelled the abstract and replaced it with a new abstract that does not contain such language.

At pages 2-3, the Office Action presents the guidelines for the “Arrangement of the Specification” and states, “The specification of the instant application is not arranged in the format as described above. Appropriate corrections are required.” This requirement is respectfully traversed. As noted in the Office Action, these are merely guidelines and are not requirements. It is respectfully submitted that the present specification meets all requirements and that this requirement should be withdrawn.

At pages 4-6, the Office Action rejects Claims 20 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Noneman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,708,656). These rejections are respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claims 20 and 21 both recite, “maintaining the connection on the packet radio service during a passive period.” As noted, e.g., at page 5, lines 4-9 (as well as many other locations within the present application), it is made clear that a passive period is defined to be a period when the sending station is *silent*; that is, it does not transmit. In contrast, as shown, e.g., in Fig. 4 of Noneman et al., when a station in Noneman et al. runs out of data, it transmits “idle frames” to maintain the connection.

In order to make this clear, Applicants have amended Claims 20 and 21 to import the definition of a passive period, i.e., that a passive period occurs when one radio resource entity does not transmit packets to the other radio resource entity. This is supported by many portions of the specification, including the portion discussed above.

For at least this reason, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 20 and 21 are not anticipated by Noneman et al.

New Claims 22 and 23 depend from Claims 21 and 20, respectively, and are also, therefore, allowable for at least the same reason. It is also noted that Noneman et al. cannot possibly anticipate these claims because the transmission of the idle frames would prevent the allocation of the resources for use by another data transfer.

It is also noted that Claims 24-40 contain corresponding limitations and are, therefore, also allowable over Noneman et al.

Applicants may not have presented all possible arguments or have refuted the characterizations of either the claims or the prior art as found in the Office Action. However, the lack of such arguments or refutations is not intended to act as a waiver of such arguments or as concurrence with such characterizations.

Conclusion

Applicants believe that the above amendments and remarks address all of the grounds for objection and rejection and place the application in condition for allowance. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply and reconsideration of this application.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

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